

DISPATCH		SECTION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. OSMA-9082
TO INFO	Chief, SR Chief, WE COS, <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
FROM	Chief of Station, <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		DATE 27 October 1959
SUBJECT	REDWOOD/ARMARSH/15		RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)
	Report of <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting with <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MARKED FOR INDEXING
			NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ACTION REQUIRED	Traces on Mirdza KEMPE and VASKIS		INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY

REFERENCE(S)

- A. OSMA-9045, 13 October 1959
B. OFHA-4134, 20 October 1959

1. Herewith is the report prepared by ARMARSH/15 in collaboration with ☐ of the latter's meeting with ☐ and ☐

Janis Janovich "VASKIS" (born 25 December 1911, presumably in Latvia).

Please note that there is a discrepancy in the years of birth of VASKIS as given in the attached report and in Reference B. Certainly the Reference B dates should be the more reliable.

2. ☐ ☐ in the report is the name used by ☐ ☐ and A/15 in referring to ☐ ☐ The one interesting piece of new information which now emerges is that Leons REITERS and Mirdza KEMPE participated in the "briefing" of ☐ ☐ REITERS is, of course, known to the Station, but we have no identifiable traces to KEMPE. We will discuss this further with A/15. In the meantime does Headquarters have any information about KEMPE. Finally, this is the first instance, to our recollection, in which REITERS' service in present day Latvia clearly goes beyond the cultural.

Attachments:

Rpt & Translation

26 October 1959

Distribution:

- 3 - SR w/atts as noted
1 - WE w/atts as noted
1 - ☐ ☐ w/cy of translation only
2 - ☐ ☐ w/orig. rpt & translation

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Date: 2005

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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CS file 44-6-138/3

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TRANSLATION OF AEMARSH/15 REPORT OF

MEETING

In July 1959 A received a letter from his brother, who wrote that he would be traveling to Finland and would be happy to meet A there. The letter, in which the brother openly mentioned their possible future reunion, seemed unusually candid. Andy answered: "From here we go to catch crabs even outside the hook." This meant that he agreed to the trip to Finland.

On 10/9 the brother telephoned unexpectedly from Åbo and said that he would ring once more on the 12th and give a more definite arrival date and time in Helsinki.

On 12/9 the brother rang again and said that he should be in Helsinki the afternoon of 14/9 and would be staying at the Hotel Ursula. In his turn Andy replied that he could be met at the Hotel Palace. In addition A received a letter from his brother dated Åbo 10/9 which confirmed that which had already been said.

14/9 about 2030 hours without having announced himself earlier, the brother together with a stranger appeared at the Hotel Palace to see A. The stranger exchanged greetings and disappeared at once—evidently sensing the awkward situation. He left with the words, "We'll probably meet later." The brothers discussed conditions at home, friends who were deported, both those who were still alive and those who were dead. The brother was uneasy and said he felt the Russians shadowed him and that there was a listening apparatus in the room. Life in the homeland, he tried to paint in bright colors. He himself had it better than ever before. All the deportees had returned home. With every day it became better and better. A grew dubious of the brother's lively and optimistic reports and sensed that something was amiss. A implored his brother to speak frankly and not rote phrases. He pointed out that there were still thousands of people in Siberia, among them their cousin, whom the brother could not be unwitting of. The brother denied that there was mail censorship. To A's questions whether the brother could carry a letter back, the brother answered after a period of hedging, "yes". But A's patriotic poetry collection he refused to take directly. In the continuing conversation the brother pleaded with A that he should quit his political activity or else he would be in for far-reaching misfortune. A answered that he would not think of quitting his political activity and if the communist party should exploit his relatives to pressure him, then they (the Russians) could reckon with a press campaign such as preceded Khrushchev's anticipated visit (to Sweden). Now the brother's mission was clear to A. A asked who the stranger was and the brother answered that it was his foreman (arbetschef) and asked A to talk with him next day. The brother was interested in the emigration's leading men: Janis Breikin and Bruno Rallinen. He pointed out that A also seemed to be one of communism's sharpest critics. A got the impression that these names had been fingered by Leons Rallinen. About 0015 the brother left and promised to telephone the next day and tell when he could come again. A requested the brother to come alone.

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14/9 at 1930 the brother telephoned and invited A to the "Ursula". A refused the invitation and said that the brother should come to him, but alone.

The brother came alone and A urged him to speak freely again. The brother began as on the previous day: A must cease his work in the National Foundation or else he (the brother) could count on trouble. Then the brother related more openly, that with him had been Mirza Kempe, Leons Reitars, and other functionaries in order to prepare him for this present action. Now there was no doubt of the brother's true face and the trip's purpose. The conversation continued and the brother said that A could safely travel home or even just visit, happily on the brother's 50th birthday anniversary, the summer of 1960. A declined all. Finally (the brother) accepted some money to buy some clothes thereby admitting that conditions were not so bright as he had related previously. After awhile the brother said that A must talk with his comrade (VASKIS). The telephoned to "Ursula" and at 2100 Vaskis came to the hotel. A invited him to some liquor and after some glasses Vaskis became talkative and related that he belonged to the communist party, had fought at Leningrad and finally showed his passport. He was born 1908. The conversation turned to A's political activity which could be "detrimental to the homeland". A asked if Vaskis could name anything false or inaccurate in what he had written. Even if he should have made a mistake, it would be a bagatelle compared with the mistakes Stalin and Khrushchev made in murdering missions. If they want him to return home, then they must give out his books and show his latest poetry collection. After leafing through the book, Vaskis suggested that A could very well live at home without writing books. A rejected all the invitations, but asked Vaskis to take with him two books and deliver them to Mirza Kempe. Vaskis did not deny the sacrifices of Stalin's time. On the score of prospecting at home, A called attention to his brother's appearance—who at 49 looked as if he were 70—and advised Vaskis to be more careful in the future. If they want to look someone such a ruin of a man as his brother should be sent for at least around another to the Black Sea before he is put to such service. The brother emphasized that religion no longer had any meaning or influence. A asked bitterly if their mother had really taught them so and asked the brother to go to her grave with flowers. The leave-taking between the brothers became cool and official. Vaskis wanted A to have a book about Riga. He announced that he wanted to meet A again and named Copenhagen as a convenient place. A emphasized that his brother should be along. Vaskis undertook that the meeting should remain a secret and not be reported in writing or orally on either side of the Baltic. A followed with them to the Ursula, got the book and returned to the Palace Hotel at 0300 hours.

15/9 A returned to Stockholm.

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